

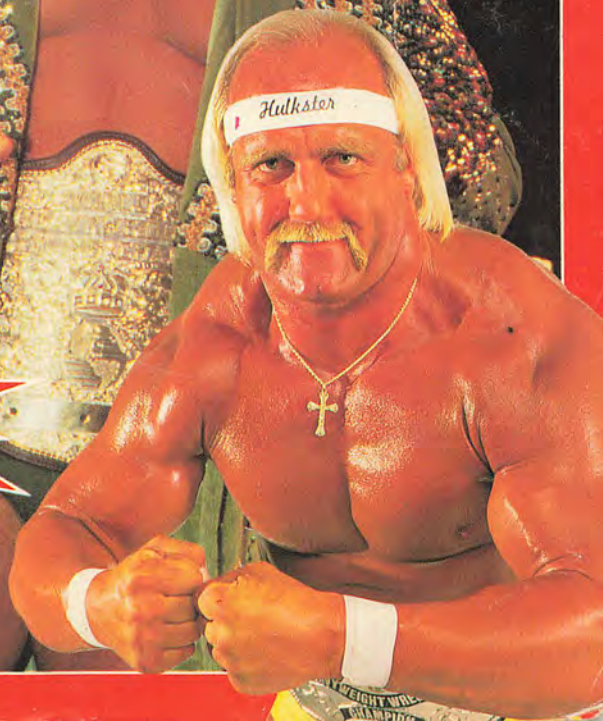
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**GUIDE TO**

# WRESTLING SUPERSTARS



**ALL YOUR  
FAVORITE  
STARS**





**GUIDE TO**

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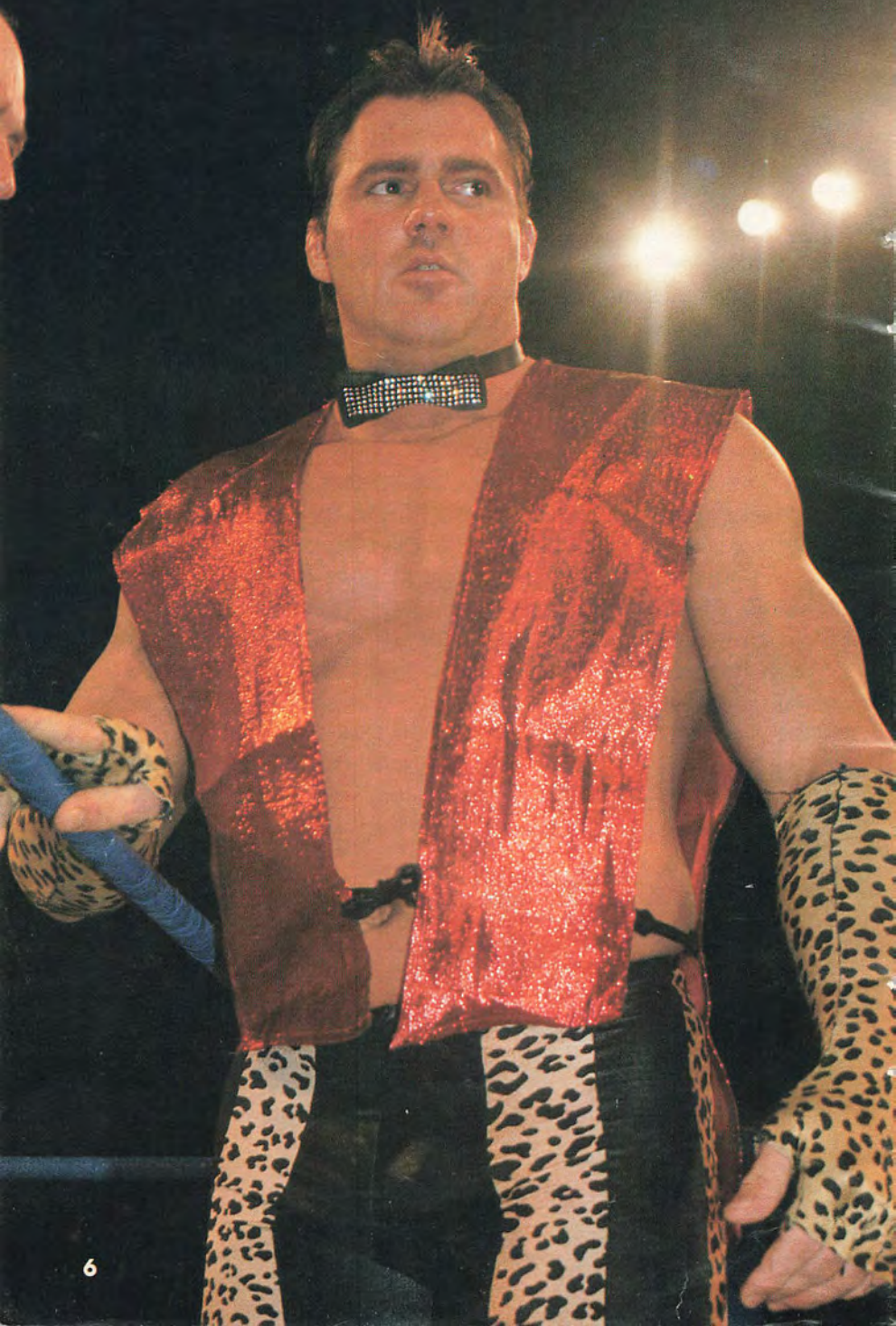
# ANDRE THE GIANT

Andre the Giant weighs in at exactly a quarter ton. He doesn't need tricks or gimmicks to humiliate another wrestler; he is so big he can squash anyone that gets in his way. The first time the fans saw Andre they gasped at the Giant's awesome proportions. But once fans got used to this Eighth Wonder of the World, they fell in love. Until recently, Andre was a friendly giant. Like the character he portrayed in the movie *The Princess Bride*, he was a good guy, but all this has changed. Andre's good side has been eclipsed by greed.

When the Giant hired Bobby Heenan to manage his career, wrestling experts sensed the change in Andre. He was obviously planning to challenge Hulk Hogan, his long-time friend and ally. Through Heenan, Andre got to know Ted DiBiase and Virgil. They gleefully supported Andre's decision to go after the Hulkster and convinced him to hand the championship belt over to DiBiase after he squashed Hogan. Andre carried out this evil plan, but as a result, the Giant lost his best friend, Hulk Hogan, as well as the respect of his fans. Now, an old nemesis, Big John Studd, is out for Andre's blood, and the Giant will have to beat him to try again for the championship.

*Left:* The French giant Andre is seven feet five inches tall. *Right:* Mighty Andre puts a stranglehold on Jake "The Snake" Roberts.







# BRUTUS BEEFCAKE

Brutus "The Barber" Beefcake isn't content to rearrange his opponents' bodies; he also tries to restyle their hair. The Barber usually prefers to provide a close crop with clipping shears—a style that is abhorred by every modern-day Samson. Jimmy Hart, Beefcake's victim at Wrestlemania IV, will tell anyone who will listen just how bad he looked with his new hairdo.

Brutus is endowed with one of the most gorgeous bodies in wrestling. He is also a superior athlete, and now that he has come over to the good side, wrestling fans can't seem to get enough of him. Beefcake is quick to say that the feeling is mutual.

Don't let his barbaric barber antics fool you; Brutus Beefcake is a far better wrestler than when he was partners with ruthless Greg Valentine. Brutus has an impressive string of victories since he turned over a new leaf and decided to help Roddy Piper defeat the late Adrian Adonis at Wrestlemania III. Beefcake wants to be a champion: He has his heart set on the Intercontinental title and his sharp shears aimed directly at Ravishing Rick Rude. Having recently teamed up with Hulk Hogan, Brutus's aspiration to be a champion seems closer than ever.

*Left:* Brutus Beefcake has always impressed the fans with his showy good looks, but he's also improved his wrestling skills since he was a rookie. Expect to see more brawn and brains than beefcake when Brutus enters the ring. *Right:* Beefcake goes for Greg Valentine with his claws extended.







# TED DIBIASE

Ted DiBiase had big plans to become champion of the World Wrestling Federation at Wrestlemania IV. The Million Dollar Man thought the win was a sure thing because he'd doubled his odds. If he couldn't win on his own, his recent acquisition, Andre the Giant, would win the belt for him. Hulk Hogan was equally positive that Ted DiBiase would not become champion, and he was correct. The Hulkster kept the title from Andre and then helped Randy Savage attain victory over DiBiase in the title match.

This double loss hurt Ted DiBiase, getting his pride as well as his wallet. He'd paid manager Bobby Heenan a hefty sum to have Andre on his side. This expenditure was hardly necessary because DiBiase is an excellent wrestler. His Spinning Toehold and figure-four leglock are among the best in the profession. Used in the right combination at the right moment, these moves could have enabled Ted to pin Savage. As soon as he gets over his pass-the-buck attitude and realizes that it's every man for himself, DiBiase could become a champion. But if he continues to pay others to do his dirty work while he stands ringside counting his money, then he ought to stop pretending to be a wrestler and become a sports promoter.

*Left:* Ted DiBiase is a 235-pound wrestler who has more ring skills than you might suspect if you've only seen him throw his money around. *Right:* DiBiase's first love is money; his second is hurting other wrestlers as much as possible.









# RIC FLAIR

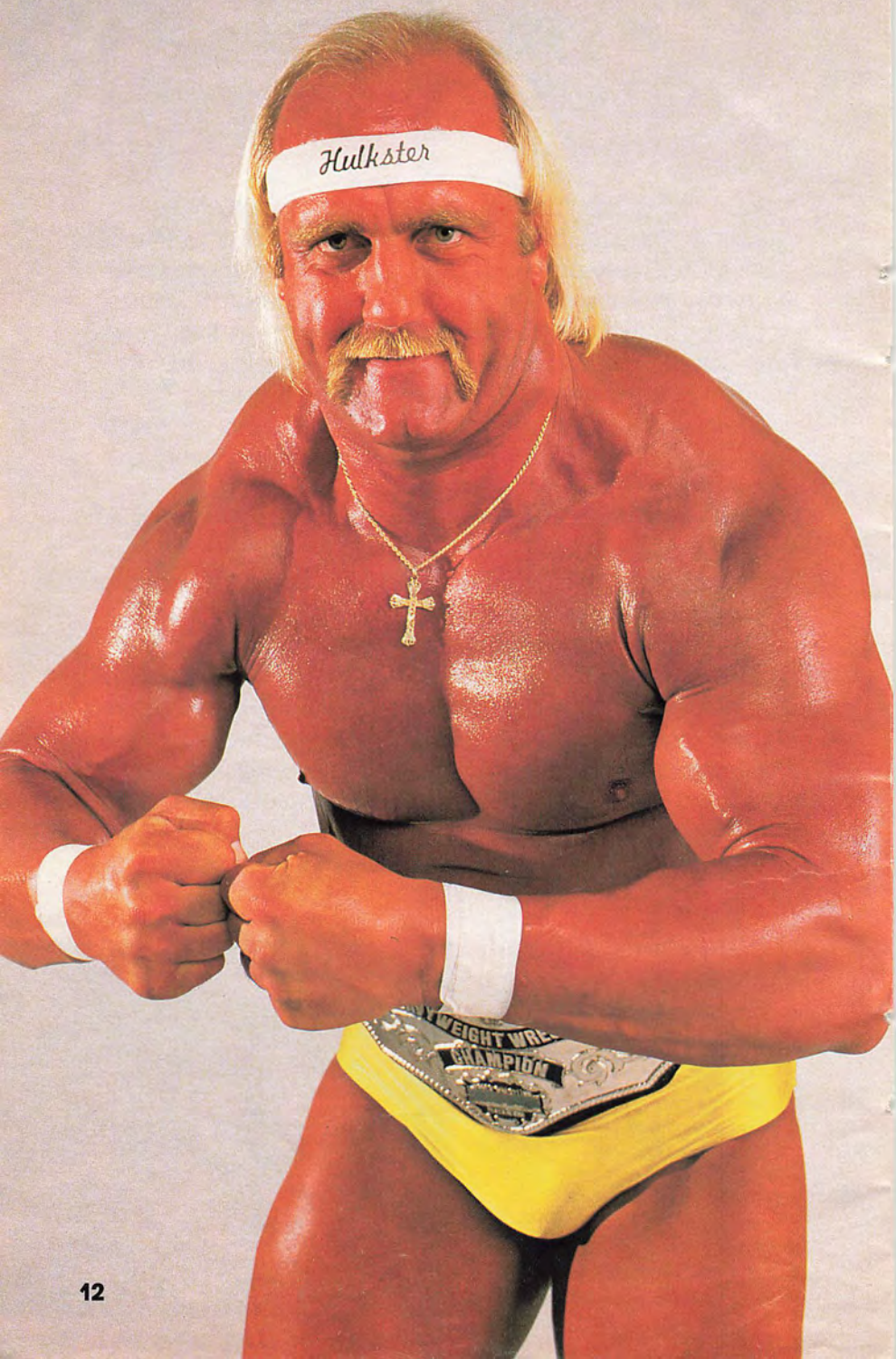
Ric Flair is the undisputed champ of the National Wrestling Alliance; he's on top and plans to stay there. "Let's face it, only one man can claim to be the greatest," Ric sums up the situation. "And to be the greatest, you've got to beat the greatest. And that's something that I, Ric Flair, have done five times. Five times a champion, and the best is yet to come." And then he won it again!

When you're number one, you're the man to beat. Every newcomer to professional wrestling and every experienced wrestler on a winning streak goes after Slick Ric. So far he's put them all away, but the rookie fighter Sting has been looking good against Flair. Sting has taken everything that the "Nature Boy" has been able to dish out and returned it in kind. Flair is standing up well to this unaccustomed punishment, but the competition is getting too close for comfort.

Since regaining the NWA World Heavyweight Championship for a record-tying sixth time (by defeating Ricky Steamboat), Flair's outlook has changed. He's cheered wildly and he loves it. Expect to see Ric Flair at the top of the NWA for many years.

*Left:* Handsome Ric Flair tops wrestling's best-dressed list. Opponents may be fooled by his pretty robes, but they quickly find out that he is an extremely aggressive wrestler. *Right:* Ric Flair rearranges Jim Garvin's long brown locks.







# HULK HOGAN

Hulk Hogan was the World Heavyweight Champion—a fact that millions of fans had taken for granted. But in wrestling, facts change quickly. Hulk's fall started when Ted DiBiase offered to buy his World Wrestling Federation title. Hulk wasn't selling, but DiBiase devised another way to get the title. He bought Andre the Giant, Hogan's long-time ally, and set the Giant against his former friend. In a controversial decision, Andre defeated the Hulk. When the big man handed his newly acquired belt over to Ted DiBiase, the WWF was thrown into chaos.

Wrestlemania IV failed to settle the dispute between the Hulkster and the Giant; both were eliminated for illegal tactics and Hulk's new friend Randy "Macho Man" Savage became the new World Champion.

Hulk left wrestling to star in *No Holds Barred*, and to rest. With the movie completed, the Hulk came back and formed a partnership with Randy Savage, which lasted several months. When the "Mega-Powers" split, the Hulk challenged the champion and defeated him at Wrestlemania V. Hulk has formed a new dynamic duo, pairing up with Brutus Beefcake. They will be challenging Randy Savage and his partner Zeus. Once again Hogan hopes to show his dominance.

*Left:* Hulk Hogan is almost single-handedly responsible for the immense popularity of wrestling. Fans love him, and he attracts new fans every time he wrestles. *Right:* Two at once—the Hulk takes control of Paul Orndorff and Roddy Piper.







# LEX LUGER

Lex Luger is a popular wrestler. Fans adore this brawny, brainy guy from Chicago. His career got off to a fast start in Florida. Lex was a villain, but his good looks and sunny personality inspired fans to cheer him rather than boo him. With the crowd's blessing, Lex became a good guy and racked up a string of stunning victories.

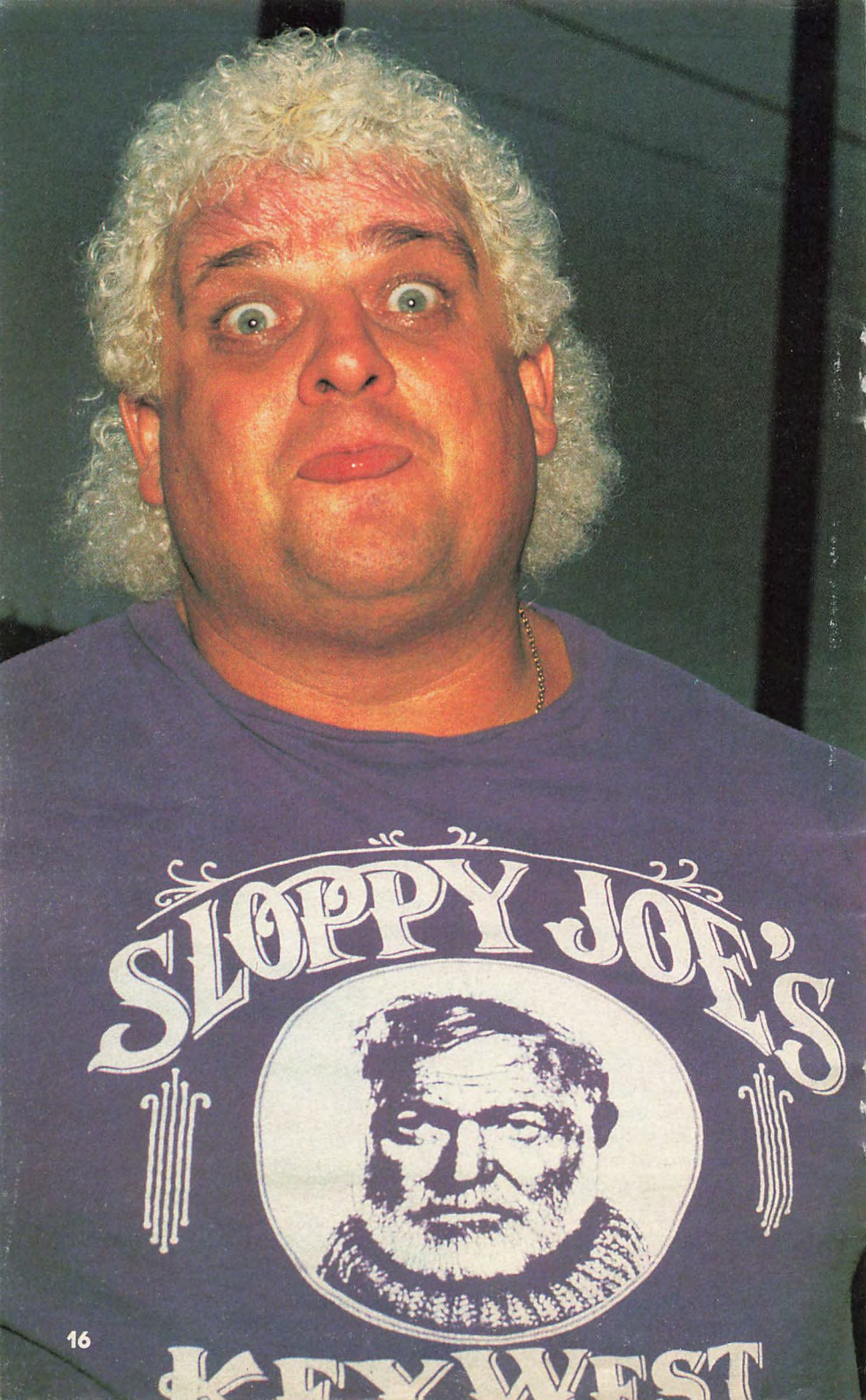
On the Florida circuit, Ric Flair had been Lex Luger's chief foe. When both men moved up to the National Wrestling Alliance, they became fast friends—for a while. Lex was an immediate NWA sensation. Offers came in from all sides, but Luger allied himself with the Four Horsemen, an elite group of wrestlers made up of Flair, Tully Blanchard, and Arn and Ole Anderson. At first, he was just an associate Horseman. But after Ole Anderson was ousted, Lex became a full member of the team. He was a fine addition to the Horsemen's stable, but their enormous egos got in the way.

Ric Flair became concerned that Lex was gaining popularity and perhaps thinking about taking the champion's belt. Flair told the other Horsemen that Luger had to go. Lex was kicked out, but he's gone on to greater heights, winning the U.S. Heavyweight title.

*Left:* A huge stadium crowd admires Lex Luger as he struts his stuff and shows off his impressive build and an equally impressive champion's gold belt. *Right:* The Russian terror, Nikita Koloff, bends his neck to the staggering force of Lex Luger's mighty hand.







# DUSTY RHODES

Dusty Rhodes is big and bold, and a champion through and through. The "American Dream" has wrestled his way back and forth across the country for nearly 20 years, winning fans and wrestling titles wherever he goes. Dusty has never backed down from a challenge; he's never walked away from a feud. If anything, Rhodes has made it a point to be right in the middle of every major war between wrestling stars.

His personal nemesis has long been "Nature Boy" Ric Flair, but Dusty has also taken the heat from the other Four Horsemen, as well as from Dick Murdoch and the Midnight Express.

After leaving the NWA, Dusty Rhodes set up shop in sunny Florida and wrestled for the Professional Wrestling Federation (PWF). In March 1989, Dusty defeated the Big Steelman in a Tampa, Florida, bout for the vacant Professional Wrestling Federation Heavyweight Championship. Since that time, Dusty has joined the WWF and the "American Dream" continues to thrill audiences from coast to coast with his sensational wrestling skills and all-around charisma.

*Left:* Dusty Rhodes calls himself the "American Dream," but men who've met him in the ring are likely to refer to Dusty as the "American Nightmare." *Right:* Ric Flair finds himself bending to the will of Dusty Rhodes whether he wants to or not.







# WENDI RICHTER

Wendi Richter accomplished what many wrestling experts believed was impossible—she made off with the gold belt Fabulous Moolah had worn for more than 20 years. Wendi was only a leggy rookie when she took the Fab One to task at Madison Square Garden in New York. The wrestling world was stunned. But hers was a short-lived championship: Moolah's pupil, Lelani Kai, made quick work of Wendi as soon as she got her in the ring.

Wendi wrestled long enough to regain her title. The second time around, that old meany Moolah, fooling nobody with her "Spider Woman" disguise, tripped up Champ Richter and walked away with the belt. Wendi had taken enough; she dropped out of wrestling to think about her life and her career.

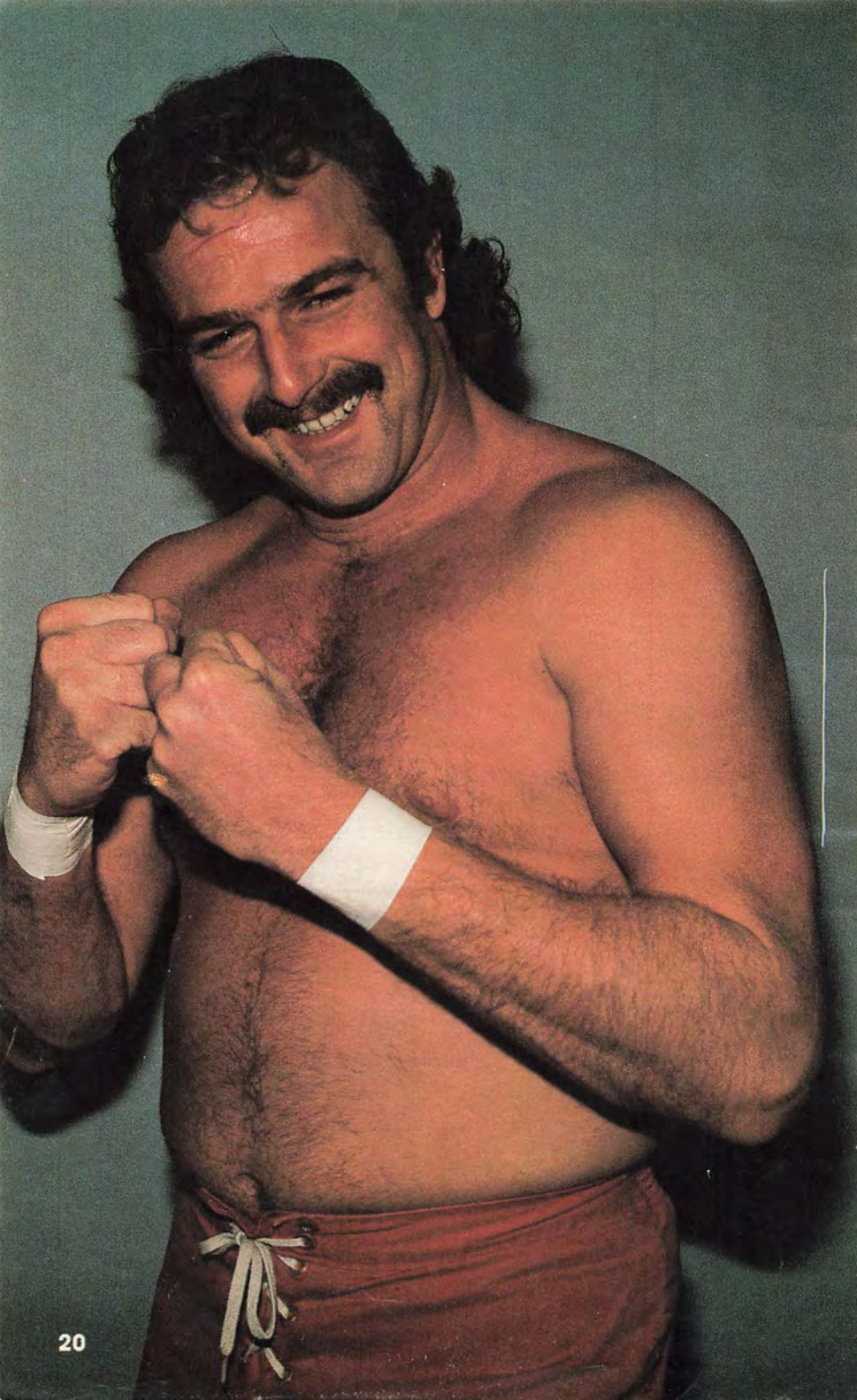
Richter must have come to the conclusion that her fans are her first priority because Wendi has come back with a vengeance. She's wrestling with the determination of a rookie in Puerto Rico and the Caribbean. Wendi is also on the top of the POWW card and grabs a mike from time to time to do top-notch commentary on POWW matches. She's been through a lot, but Wendi is a fighter, and wrestling fans are thrilled to have her back.

*Left:* Wendi Richter flashes her flashy championship belt.

*Right:* Wendi is a determined wrestler who expects nothing less of herself than peak performance every time she enters the ring.







# JAKE "THE SNAKE" ROBERTS

Jake Roberts is as cold-blooded as a reptile, as evil-eyed as a snake, and as capable of crushing a man as a boa constrictor. To prove that his nickname is no joke, Jake always brings his pet boa, Damien, into the ring. After he squashes an opponent, Jake lets Damien have fun with the victim. The vanquished wrestler recoils in horror as the snake slithers over him and tightens its grip.

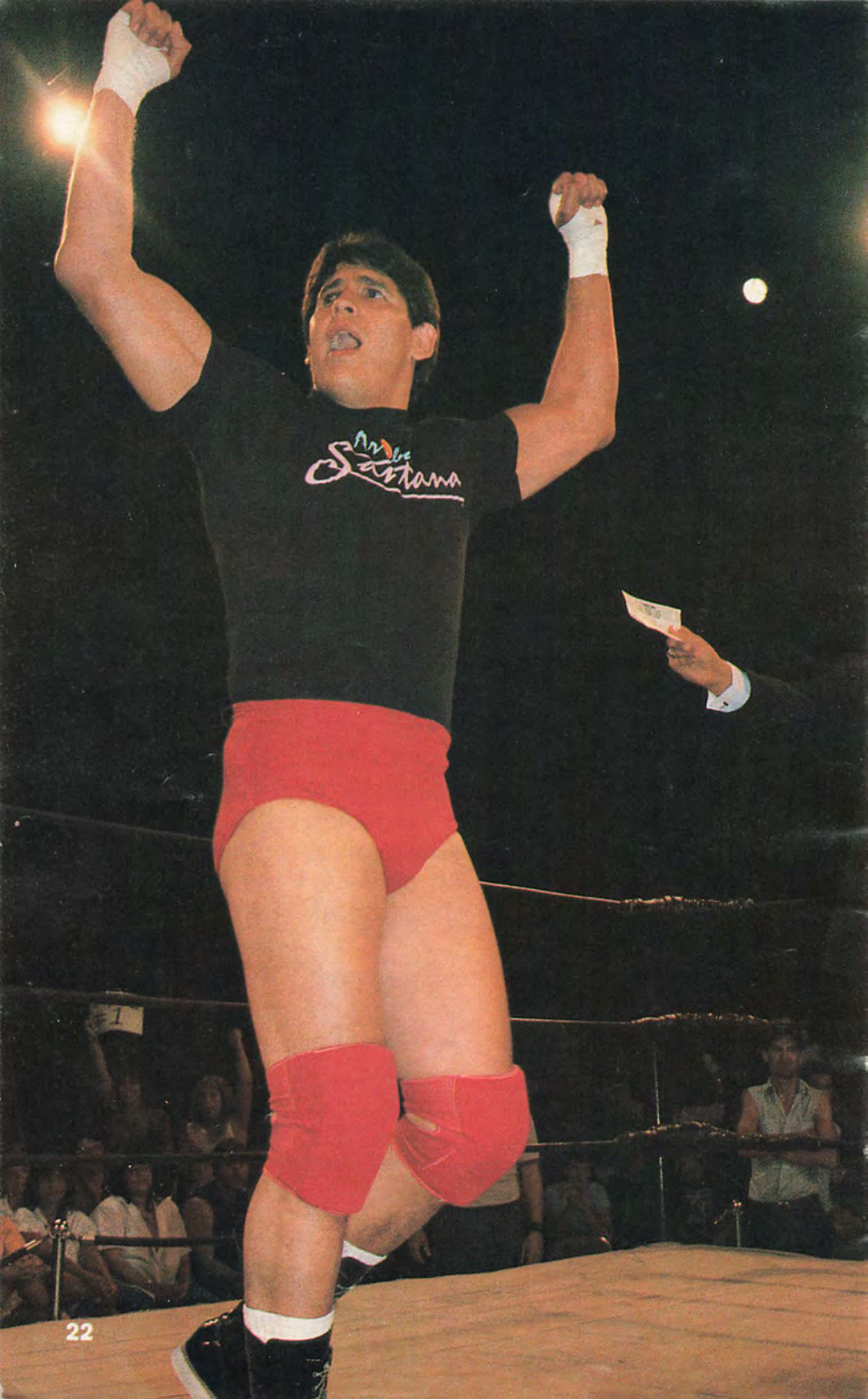
The Snake is different from when he was a rookie. He started his career as a favorite of fans throughout the mid-Atlantic and mid-South. They liked Jake's deadly fast hands and his devastating knee lift. But fair fighting quickly bored Roberts, and he moved to Florida and apprenticed himself to evil Kevin Sullivan. Jake didn't win any titles in Florida, but he developed a new and deadly style of inflicting pain, pain, and more pain. He also invented a devious new hold, his world-famous DDT.

Jake has settled in the World Wrestling Federation. The fans have come back to his corner; they're clamoring for the DDT and cheering as he hands out mayhem. But Roberts got a little mayhem himself. In a match with Ted DiBiase, Jake severely injured his neck. Wrestling fans are waiting to see if Jake will wrestle again.

*Left:* Jake "The Snake" Roberts is a cool, cruel guy whose favorite house pet is a boa constrictor. Like his pet, Roberts would just as soon crush you as look at you. *Right:* Roberts works a kink into Magnum T.A.'s neck.







# TITO SANTANA

Tito Santana lives by a code of honor and fights by the rules of wrestling. No matter who his opponent is, Tito puts up a fair fight. Other guys may break the rules every time they enter the ring, but Santana is dedicated to honest and fierce competition. Ironically, the rule breakers don't stand a chance when they come up against this Mexican nice guy. Santana is nearly impossible to beat. He's an inspiration to everyone in wrestling and anyone who is thinking about becoming involved in the sport.

Tito Santana is serious about his career. He is constantly improving his skills and learning from his mistakes and the mistakes of other wrestlers. Tito was brutally mishandled by some of the veteran rule breakers, but he learned from the experience and has come back to win the belt.

Santana had no trouble pounding Greg Valentine, one of the most ruthless wrestlers around. Randy Savage took the WWF Intercontinental title from Tito but had to hide a roll of quarters in his macho mitt to do it. Lately, Tito has been fighting his old partner, Rick Martel. They parted ways during a tag bout in *Wrestlemania V*. Since then, the two one-time friends have become bitter enemies.

*Left:* Tito Santana is an enormously energetic wrestler who is both a good sport and a superior fighter. *Right:* When his championship tag team Strike Force went after the Islanders, Tito Santana wasted no time in taking out his man.







# RANDY SAVAGE

Randy Savage pulled off the coup of a lifetime at Wrestlemania IV. The Macho Man set his goals high and walked away with the World Wrestling Federation World Heavyweight title. The battles Savage fought to get to the top spot were hard won, but with the lovely Elizabeth at his side as he strapped on the gold champion's belt, Randy felt that winning the prize was well worth the long struggle.

Randy took over the world championship from Hulk Hogan, who held the WWF title for many years. Hulk and Macho Man had long been enemies, but they resolved their feuds and Randy became the champ with the Hulkster's blessings.

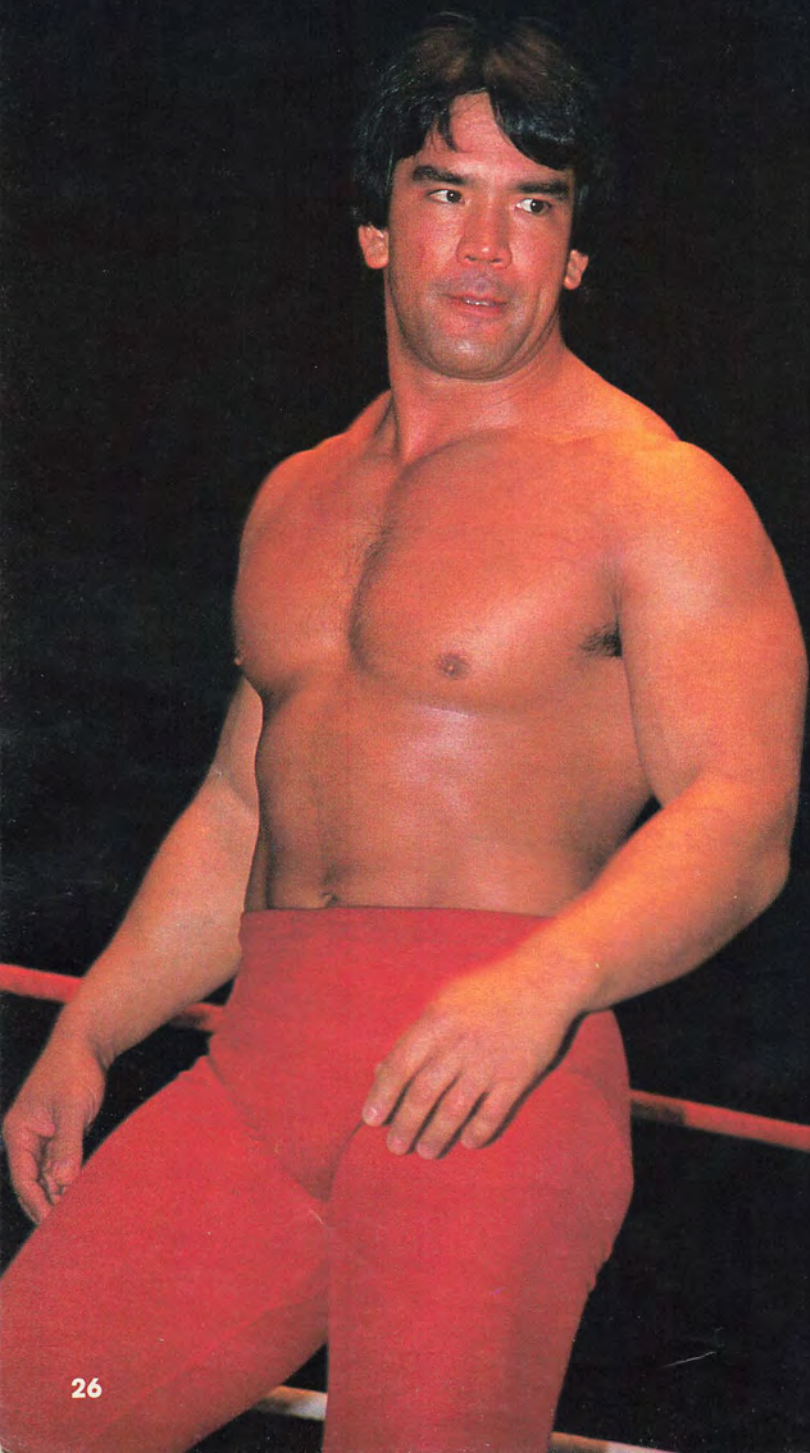
But after being friends for six months, the "Mega-Powers" split up. Many different reasons were cited for the breakup, but in the end it was Savage versus the Hulk for the world title at Wrestlemania V. By now it's common knowledge that the Hulk defeated the Macho Man for the belt and the two are still at odds. This feud should rage on for many more years.

*Left: Randy Savage slips into the ring incognito on his way to winning the World Heavyweight title.*

*Right: Savage tosses Mr. Wrestling II across the ring during their match.*







# **RICKY**

## **"THE DRAGON"**

### **STEAMBOAT**

Ricky Steamboat's clean-cut, hard-fighting style quickly made him a favorite of the fans and a superstar in the ring. Early in his career, the Dragon squared off against Ric Flair in a seesaw battle for the NWA Championship. For years, the two enemies traded the title belt in a series of grueling matches, until Steamboat left the NWA.

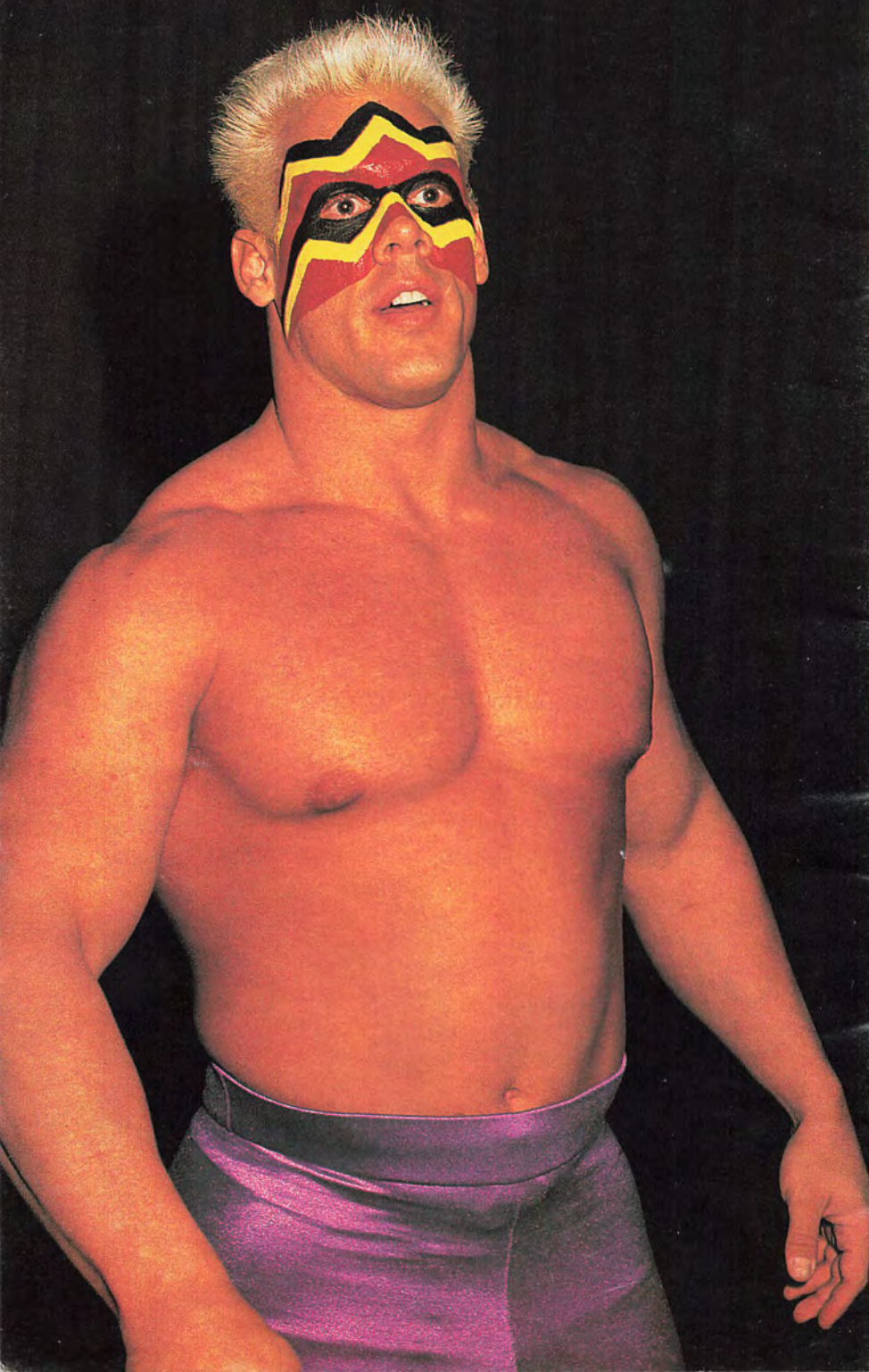
Moving to the World Wrestling Federation, he proved that he could mix it up with the best in the world and come out a winner. Then tragedy struck. He suffered a devastating injury at the hands of Randy Savage, and many thought he would never wrestle again. Refusing to be kept down, Ricky struggled bravely to regain his health and returned for vengeance, defeating Savage at Wrestlemania III.

In January 1989, the Dragon returned to the NWA scene. His nemesis once again was Ric Flair, and in February 1989, he defeated Ric in Chicago to win the NWA World Heavyweight title. Steamboat held on to the crown until May 1989, when, in Nashville, Flair regained the title for an unprecedented sixth time. And now the one-time enemies are friends—they've even teamed up together.

*Left:* Ricky Steamboat was born in Hawaii, and before he became known as "the Dragon," he was called the "Happy Hawaiian"—a name that describes his sunny personality and fan-pleasing attitude. *Right:* Steamboat has Dick Slater down and hurting.







# STING

Former Bladerunner Sting is hot to be the National Wrestling Alliance World Heavyweight Champ. Current title-holder Ric Flair is running scared, and wrestling fans are falling over themselves in adoration of this fired-up blond idol.

Sting's career got off to a fast start under the skillful management of Eddie Gilbert. The burly blond was the major force of the Bladerunners, but with the demise of that team, he went on to link up successfully with Gilbert and later Rick Steiner.

After pummeling his former partners and officially joining the ranks of the heroes, Sting turned on the heat. He directed the full force of his championship campaign straight at the Four Horsemen and Ric Flair. Life became a nightmare for those guys. Sting gave them absolutely no peace; he never let up.

During the Clash of Champions, Sting fought Flair to a time-limit draw. The newcomer's strength and skill baffled the reigning champ and thrilled a spellbound crowd. There's no way Ric Flair can hold on to his belt against Sting's deadly assaults. The blond muscleman has Flair's number, and time is on his side.

*Left:* Sting is wild and young and out to get as much wrestling action as he can.

*Right:* The Terminator is about to be terminated by the superior force of the 270-pound Sting.







# BARRY WINDHAM

Barry Windham was just a skinny kid when he started wrestling. He had talent and the crowd-pleasing looks of the boy-next-door. Wrestling fans took to Windham right away. He worked hard to build his body to a peak-performance level and wrestled with a passion and determination not often seen in professional wrestling.

Ever since he began wrestling, Windham's greatest rival has been Ric Flair. The two have gone at each other in matches so grueling that fans were amazed either man could find the strength to crawl away from the ring. Windham has come very close to taking Slick Ric's title many times. But members of Flair's protection society, the Four Horsemen, always saved Ric from defeat. Soon, Windham wised up and decided to save his own neck. The Horsemen were too dangerous to have as enemies so he decided to make them his friends. Barry's fans were furious that he signed up to fight with these rule breakers, but what could he do? The Horsemen were killing him. Barry is still young and extremely talented. With these qualities, he could be champion some day. And now that he is wrestling in the WWF, the sky is the limit for Barry Windham.

*Left:* Barry Windham knows how to keep a good man down, as he demonstrated when he exerted his will on Eddie Gilbert in a painful moment of defeat. *Right:* Announcer Jim Ross is dwarfed, standing next to the 260-pound powerhouse, Barry Windham.



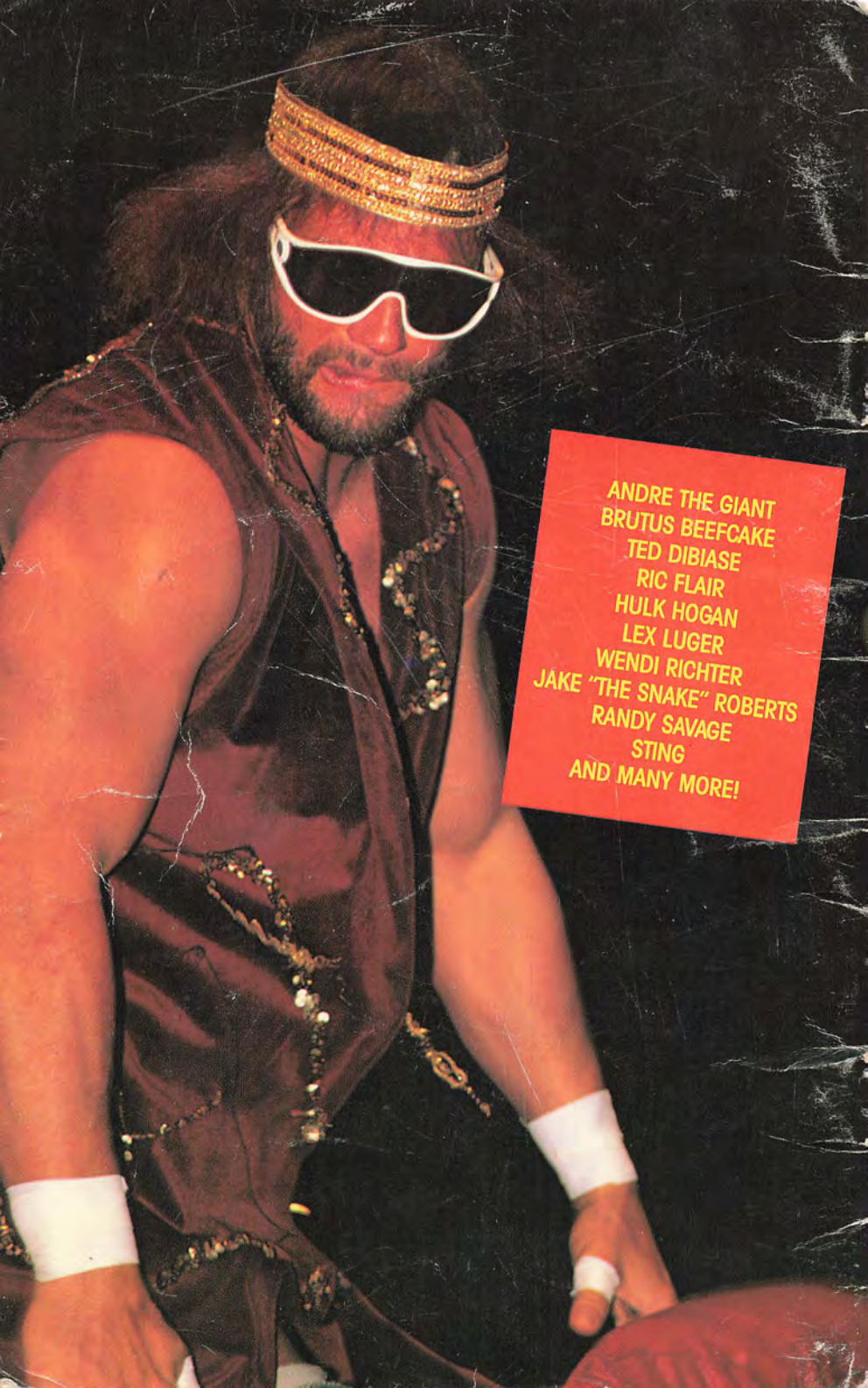


Barry Windham never could get along very well with Ric Flair—but then who can? The battle of the big blonds rages on with Barry getting the upper hand for the moment.









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